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SOME INSCRIPTIONS FROM THE ORIENT.

During a journey in the Orient in 1889-90, Dr. John P. Peters copied some Greek and Latin inscriptions as described in his paper in this number (pp. 325-334), and he has kindly placed them, together with some field notes, in my hands for publication. A number of them had already been edited. Such as I have not found in any publication consulted are given below.

No. 1. "Inscription on fallen column on old road from Amman to Jerash. Size of letters .067 m."

I E R T I A V C  
 T R I B P O T E S T I I  
 O I M P I V C O S I  
 P E R A E I S E V E R I A  
 M A X I M V M I E C

Imperator Cae]sar  
L. Septimius S]everus  
P]erti[nax] Aug(ustus) [P(ontifex) M(aximus)]  
Trib(unicia) Potest(ate) II[I  
P(ater) P(atriciae)] Imp(erator) IV Co(n)s(ul) I[I  
Per Ae[ ](ium) Severi[an-  
um Ma]ximu[m] fecit.

This inscription introduces us to a period of Roman history that is not very fully known. When Septimius Severus was hailed emperor by his soldiers on the Danube, Didius Julianus had been proclaimed at Rome, Clodius Albinus on the Rhone, and Pescennius Niger on the Euphrates. Severus marched upon Rome, put Julianus to death, and hastened to the East against his now more formidable rival Pescennius. He was victorious at the crossing of the Hellespont, and from there pushed on to the passes of Cilicia, where he met Pescennius, defeated and slew him. He remained in Syria for some

time, and finally won some victories beyond the Euphrates and in Arabia, from which he obtained the titles of *Adiabenus* and *Arabicus*. From the absence of these honors in our inscription it would seem that the erection of this monument belongs to the earlier part of the year 195 A. D., to which year it is to be assigned by the titles *Trib. Potest. III.* and *Imp. IV.*, while the eastern victories belong to the same year. The latter part of the inscription has been restored by the assistance of another found at Bostra in the same region and reading as follows (Waddington, *Voyage Arch.* No. 1943, *CIL.* ii, 91): *P. Aelio Severiano Maximo Leg. Aug. Pr. Pr. Cos. Desig. imm.* This name quite fits the traces of letters in Dr. Peters' copy, and the titles show that Severianus was in command of the district, as they also supply the reason for his being charged with the erection of the monument. Waddington notes (*loc. cit.*) that he was governor of Cappadocia at the commencement of the reign of Marcus Aurelius, having previously been legate in Arabia toward the end of the reign of Antoninus, and that he perished with his forces at the beginning of the war against the Parthians. The last statement is from Dio Cassius LXXI. 2. It is easy to see now that it was a mistake to identify the two. The Severianus of our inscription may be the son of the earlier general.

No. 2. "Jerash. North of city. Burying ground. This is practically complete."

D                    M  
C I V I Z E N O P H I L ^  
III LEG III CYR

*D(is) M(anibus). Civi Zenophilo iii (?) leg(ionis)*  
*III Cyrenaicae.*

Dr. Peters' note seems to forbid restoring MIL before LEG. Perhaps *iii* should be considered equivalent to *Coh. iii*, rather than the sign for centurion multiplied. The modesty of the inscription would argue the humble career of a common soldier, proud though he was of his citizenship. Numerous inscriptions attest the presence of the Cyrenaic legion for some time in this region. Its headquarters were at Bostra (Waddington, *Voyage Arch.*, 1948).

No. 3. Jerash. This inscription has been repeatedly

copied and published, and it has been the subject of no little comment already; but Dr. Peters was fortunate enough to discover an additional fragment which throws new light upon it and reconstitutes the entire form. It is sufficient to refer the reader to Boeckh's *Corpus* (*CIG*, 4661) for the citation of the literature upon the subject. The inscription was written above the arch of the great gateway at the square in the centre of the town, where the two main streets met at right angles. The gateway formed the entrance to a colonnade leading up to the chief temple of the town, and now lies in a mass of ruins scattered in the vicinity. Fragments (*a*), (*b*), and (*c*), were first copied by Burckhardt at the beginning of this century, (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) by Count Vidua, (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), (*d*), and (*e*) by Count de Bertou. Boeckh unites them as follows:

ΥΠΕΡΤΥΧΗΚΑΙCΩ]ΤΗΡΙΑC[ΑΥΤ]ΟΚΡΑΤΟ[ΡΟCΤΟΥΚΥΡΠΙΟΥΗΜΩΝ  
 ΚΑ]ΙC[ΑΡΟCΤΑΙΛΙ]ΟΥΑΔΡ[Ι]ΑΝΟΥ  
 ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙ[ΝΟΥCΕΒΕΥCΕΒΤ]ΗΚΑΙΑΥΡΗΛΙΟΥΚΑ[ΙC]ΑΡ[ΟCΥΙΟΥΑΥ  
 ΤΟΥΚΑΙΤΩΝ[ΤΕΚΝΩΝΑΥΤΟΥ]ΚΑΙΤΟΥCΥΝΤΑΝΤΟ[C]ΟΙ[ΚΟ]ΥC[ΕΒΑC  
 ΤΟΥΚΑΙΙΕΡΑ[C]CΥΝΚΛΗΤΟΥΚΑΙΔΗΜΟΥΡΩΜΑΙΩΝΗΤ[ΟΛΙC  
 ΤΟΠΡΟΤΥΛ[ΟΝΤΟΥΤΟΚΑΙΤΗΝ]CΤΟΑ[Ν]ΑΦΙΕΡCΕΝ[ΕΤΤΙ - - - Κ  
 ΟΡΝΗΛΙ[ΟΥ - - ΤΟΥΚΡΑ]ΤΙCΤ[ΟΥ]ΥΠΑΤ[ΙΚ]ΟΥΑΝ - - - -

Dr. Peters' notes upon the fragments, recorded at the time, are these:

“(a) Just east of (c).

“(b) Lay close to keystone on south. Full size. Letters not in straight lines across block. Half inscribed, upper part only. Height 1.05 m. and 1.10 m., breadth .76 m. and .71 m. Letters of upper four lines .08 m.; of lowest, .12 m.

“(c) Broken at top and bottom. Close to keystone to north. Length .80 m. Upper rows .10 m. and .09 m.; bottom row large, perhaps .12 m.

“(d) Broken at top. Length 1.08 m. Lying a little below door and east, below (a). Upper lines .08 m., lowest line 12 m.”

(e) This was not copied by Dr. Peters.

“(f) Keystone, broken off at bottom and at top. Length .82 m. Letters on upper five rows .10 m., on lowest .12 m.

“(g) Fragment, a considerable distance below former pieces.

“(h) Fragment, close to (g).”

<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px; margin-right: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(b)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> ANT Ω NEI  TOY KAI ITΩ N  TOY KAI IE PA  TO Π PO Π Y A  ' O P N H A I </div> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px; margin-right: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(a)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> THPIAC  Λ IC    Δ </div> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px; margin-right: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(f)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> P T H C A Y T  T A I  Π  N  A I    C E B A </div> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px; margin-right: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(c)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> C K P A T O  O Y A Δ P  T K A I A Y P H A I O Y K A  K A I T O Y C Y N Π A N T O  Δ H M O Y P O M A I  C T O A Λ Φ I E P O  T I C T Y Π A T O Y A N </div> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px; margin-right: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(d)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> A N O Y  A I O Y K A  N Π A N T O  M A I  I E P O  Y Π A T O Y A N </div> </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 5px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">(e)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> E A P O C  O I P C Y C  O I N H T  C E N </div> </div> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">(g)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> K A I K P A  I I A A T T I </div> <div style="text-align: center;">(h)</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> E Γ </div>
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Υπερ της Αυτοκράτο-

[ρος σω]τηρίας T. A[ε]λ[ι]ου 'Αδρ[ι]άνου  
'Αντωνεί[νου Ka]ίσ[αρος Σεβ.] Π(ατρός) Π(ατρίδος) καὶ Ἀνθελίου Ka[ε]λ[ι]σαρο[ς υἱοῦ  
αὐ]τοῦ καὶ τῶν τέκνων αὐτῶν καὶ τοῦ σύνπαντος[ς] οἰ[κο]ν Σεβ-  
ασ]τοῦ καὶ ἱερᾶ[ς] συνκλήτου καὶ δήμου 'Ρ[ω]μ[αί]ων ἡ π[ό]λις  
τὸ προπύ[λαιον καὶ πάντην τὴν] στοὰ[ν] ἀφιέρωσεν ἐπὶ  
K[ορνηλίου] πρεσβευτοῦ Σεβ. ἀ[ντιστρα.]τήτου ἀν—

The discovery of the keystone gives the proper clue to the arrangement of the fragments that belong together. Space must be allowed for the boss in the centre, as was not done in previous arrangements, and what remains of the first line shortens and simplifies the formulæ. Here also the conditions of fairly symmetrical arrangement on each side the keystone must be regarded. The broken O of (*c*) fixes this fragment as contiguous to (*f*), as its present position, noted above, requires: (*d*) follows next to the right from position and connection of words, and (*e*) still to the right: (*b*) evidently belongs quite to the left of anything we possess, as shown by the vacant space before its first line, and by its present position. This renders it necessary that a considerable space should intervene between it and the keystone, in order to balance the opposite side. Shall (*a*) be inserted here? Two objections occur. It now lies close to (*e*) on the other side of the keystone, and it was there when Burckhardt first copied it. Again, it was noted by Vidua that the letters were different from the others, and Boeckh admits it with doubt. Dr. Peters' copy of this fragment represents the letters as distinctly smaller than the others. In a recent letter answering inquiries on this point he says: "I should regard the difference of size of the letters in my notebook as presumptive evidence of smaller size in the original. At the same time, if the difference were marked, I wonder that I did not make a note of it. The fact that I copied all of those fragments together, without further note, would seem to show that I did not regard the difference in size, if such there were, as sufficiently marked to preclude the possibility of all belonging together." As the substance of this fragment is desired in the lacuna, I have inserted it with some misgiving. It will be observed that Dr. Peters' copy has recovered a fragment of a letter in the fourth line and another in the sixth where nothing has been given before. The first of these may be identified with T, the second with the A of KAI. This necessitates a slight change from the words supplied by Boeckh, and the space is better filled; (*g*) and (*h*) must be excluded from this inscription. The testimony of the copyists is uniform that nothing followed the line of larger letters. Dr. Peters writes: "I was struck with the fact that certain


fragments were at a considerable, if not improbable, distance farther forward or down in the heap than the others. There was a considerable amount of inscription, apparently, in this immediate locality. I hold it to be quite possible that, besides the great arch inscription, represented in (b), (c), (d), (f), there was another inscription, or there were other inscriptions on the walls." He would arrange the fragments as they now lie in this relative position :

*b*      *f*      *c*  
                  *a*  
                  *d*  
                  *g*  
                  *h*

Answering another inquiry he adds, "I would say that to the best of my recollection there could have been nothing above" the first line of (b).

In general, the letters are not regularly spaced, and some unexpected gaps would probably be better filled than is shown by the copies, especially at the junction of the fragments. Furthermore, Dr. Peters dwells on the fact that the lines curved down somewhat from the keystone. It does not seem to me likely that Boeckh's *THATIKOT* in the last line is probable. I supply *ANOTII.* at the close on the authority of *CIG*, 4022, 2743, 2878. Date of inscription 147-161, A. D.

No. 4. "Roman milestone beyond Erak, between Erak and Sukhin, on the road from Palmyra to Euphrates. Very much effaced. An inscription of seven lines, of which I could see only these letters in four consecutive lines at the end."

  
                  P            A E L  
                  K X I M O  
                  I I I M P

Palmyra was the centre from which the stones on the roads leading out of it were measured, as shown by the inscriptions recorded by Dr. Sterrett along the routes both east and west of the city (*Papers of American School*, III, Nos. 632-636,

648-651). The distance of our stone from Palmyra was such as to justify the restitution of XVIII. M. P. (*Millia Passuum*) in the last line. The stones read by Dr. Sterrett to the east of Palmyra belong to the time of Constantine; but those to the west are earlier, and two of them, No. 649 and 651, fall in the reign of Septimius Severus, and were set up *sub Ventidio Rufo*. The eastern route may also have had an earlier series of stones than those found by Dr. Sterrett. This conjecture receives some support from the final M. P. of our inscription, which does not occur on those previously read. This leaves open the possibility that *sub Aelio Severiano Maximo* may have stood in the second and third lines of the present inscription. It should be added, moreover, that Dr. Peters remarked that the stone differed considerably from the others except one already recorded, bearing a greater resemblance to a column.

No. 5. "Kurietai (North of Damascus). Stone built into the side of a doorway in a private house. The beginning of the inscription buried. Copied under difficulties in a very dark place. Will not warrant it as an exact facsimile. Was principally concerned in getting the letters."

████████ X O K T O Y Z A ████████  
           J N T ω N X ε ████████ N A B ████████  
 ████████ T O Y O ████████ Y ████████ A P T

No. 6. Broussa, Yer Kapu. The inscription is to the right of a cross which ends below in a projecting rest and stands upon a stepped pedestal. Above the cross is written IC and below the right arm in the angle K ϑ. Some distance above the main cross is a second cross with its four arms of equal length.

The surface of the inscription is rough and the letters difficult to follow in places. Dr. Peters' copy is as follows:

I ε B o H o I T o N K O N  
 Δ ο λ o P ◁ τ ◁ Π F  
 X ◁  
 O N K ◁ M ◁ P T O



From a rubbing,  $\overline{|\epsilon}$  of the first line may be corrected to KE, and K to C; P  $\triangleleft$  of the second may possibly be a broad N, and  $\chi \triangleleft$  for NI] KA. According to this we may read

$\text{'I}(\eta\sigma\omicron\upsilon)\varsigma \quad \text{K}(\acute{\upsilon}\rho\iota)\epsilon \beta\omicron\acute{\eta}\varsigma\iota \tau\omicron\nu \sigma\omicron\nu$   
 $\nu\iota]\kappa\tilde{\alpha} \quad \delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda\omicron\nu \tau\alpha\pi[\epsilon\iota\nu-$   
 $\nu\iota\kappa]\tilde{\alpha} \quad \omicron\nu \kappa\grave{\epsilon} \acute{\alpha}\mu\alpha\rho\tau[\omega\lambda\acute{\omicron}\nu.$

Or following the copy somewhat more closely :

$\text{K}(\acute{\upsilon}\rho\iota)\epsilon \beta\omicron\acute{\eta}\varsigma\iota \tau\omicron\nu \sigma\omicron\nu$   
 $\delta\omicron\upsilon\lambda. \quad \tilde{\omicron}\rho\alpha \tau\alpha\pi[\epsilon\iota\nu-$   
 $\omicron\nu \kappa\grave{\epsilon} \acute{\alpha}\mu\alpha\rho\tau[\omega\lambda\acute{\omicron}\nu.$

Further possibilities may be left to others. A proper name is expected, but not always found.

No. 7. Broussa, Hissar Kapu. Broken and chipped mass of marble in road.

P

N

H A  
 C T A T II M P Θ  
 E Ω N II O A T Θ

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In all the Greek inscriptions above,  $\Pi$  should not have the upper bar passing beyond the verticals, and E should be circular in form.